WinCamD™-FIR2-16 Manual Supplement

Very Expensive Sensor

Observe max irradiance limits (or pay for sensor replacement). Carefully read this supplement *twice* before attempting to use the camera.

Camera shown actual size
2.40 x 2.65 x 1.85" (x 2.05" with ND filter)

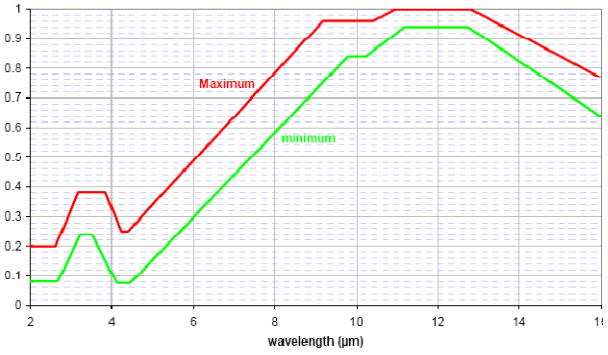
Compact, Portable, Port-Powered, USB 2.0 *FIR* Beam Profiling for Windows 7, Vista & XP

Features

- ◊ **35 µm pixel pitch, 392 x 296 pixels**
- ◊ **13.72 x 10.36 mm Image Area**
- ◊ **Silicon microbolometer**
- ◊ **Port Powered USB 2.0**; flexible 3 m cable, *no power brick*
- ◊ **1.85" (47 mm) thin**
- ◊ **12-bit ADC**, 4 MB image buffer & on-board microprocessor
- ◊ **>100:1 Signal to rms noise** attainable
- ◊ **Exposure** range **4:1**
- ◊ **Imager Gain** range **5.7:1**
- ◊ **10:1 ND** absorbing screw-on filter provided
- ◊ **No Chopper Required -** Measure Pulsed or CW Beams
- ◊ **Room Temperature** - no cooling/TE power required

Applications

- ◊ CO_2/FIR laser profiling
- ◊ Field servicing of FIR lasers and laser-based systems
- ◊ Optical assembly & instrument alignment
- ◊ Beam wander & logging

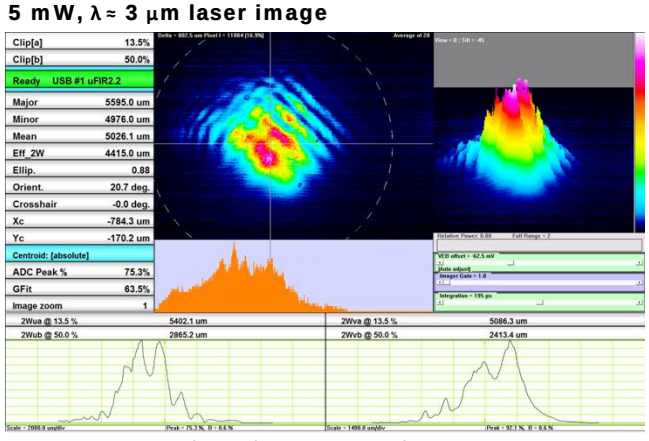


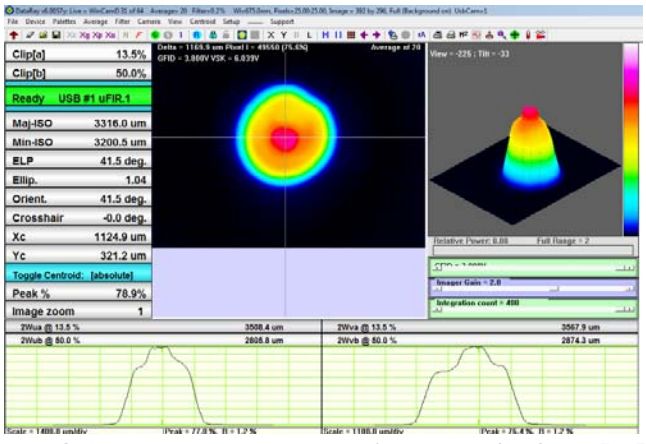
WinCamD-FIR2-16 Relative Spectral Response

IMPORTANT

- ◊ 50 mW/cm^2 saturation CW irradiance.
- ◊ **Few hundred mW/cm^2 burn-in damage threshold**.
- ◊ TBA mW/cm^2 catastrophic damage threshold.
- ◊ Carefully measure your beam irradiance *before* exposing camera to beam.
- ◊ Minimize time that the camera spends in higher irradiance beams. Long-term over-exposure can increase dark current.

5 mW, λ ≈ 3 µm laser image





WinCamD-FIR Setup and Use. Software Ver. 7.1B12 or higher

*** Warning *** Using any type of uncooled far-IR camera is different from using a standard CCD camera:

1) Like older plasma televisions, but more so, far-IR bolometric cameras are susceptible to 'burn-in' damage because the damage threshold is close to the saturation threshold and to the working irradiance range. Slight damage ***may*** anneal out, but major burn-in is irrepairable.

   DataRay supplies a post calibration reference image with every -FIR camera, so that any subsequent damage is simply determined.

2) The range of offset and exposure adjustment is lower, so more care must be taken.

3) ***Never start a measurement unless you know that the peak beam irradiance is <25 mW/cm²***. i.e. you have a calibrated power meter and an estimate of your beam diameter. See Appendix A for some available meters and filters.

4) ***Cumulative exposure at high irradiance can cause burn-in and may permanently damage the detector***. We recommend the use of a shutter or at least have a way to block the beam quickly and easily in order to limit burn-in/shading due to cumulative exposure. Even below saturation, at low **Imager gain** (**1**) with maximum **Integration time** try to keep the time per session that the laser is on the imager to minutes, not ten's of minutes. We may relax this restriction in the future.

5) With the FIR2-16 camera, DataRay includes an ND2.0 (@546 nm) filter which is usefully ND ~1.0 at wavelengths below 4 µm. See Appendix A for the transmission curve.

Safety

6) **Sensor Safety**. **IMPORTANT**: You are totally responsible for the safety of the expensive sensor. If you damage the sensor the replacement charge is many $1,000's. See **Irradiance limits & Damage Thresholds** and **Operation**, below.
7) **Laser safety**. You are totally responsible for your own laser safety and for the safety of the expensive sensor. wear appropriate goggles. Use appropriate screens and door interlocks.

Installation

8) ***Before*** *attaching the camera* you must install the software, open and close it, in order to install the driver. Install the camera on the computer per the main User Manual. Leave the cap on the camera. Start the software. Study the WinCamD manual & this supplement.

Calibration

9) The first time on any particular computer, a **Camera not calibrated** warning will appear.

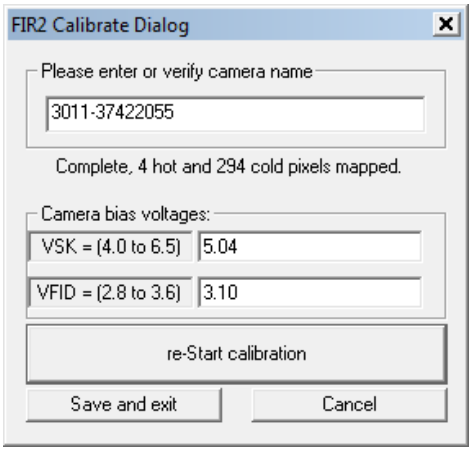
   If a xxxx-yyyyyyyy**.uFir_2_cal** file is provided on the CD, use Windows Explorer to copy it to the **c:\Program files\DataRay** directory. Go to 15).

   If no cal file is provided, go to Step 10).

10) In the **Setup** pull-down menu choose **Calibrate current Camera** to open the **FIR2 Calibrate Dialog**.

11) Go for a break. Return in five minutes after the camera has warmed up. [*Required* before camera calibration. Recommended before normal use.]

12) Enter the camera **SN** number from the label on top in the dialog. See label example right.

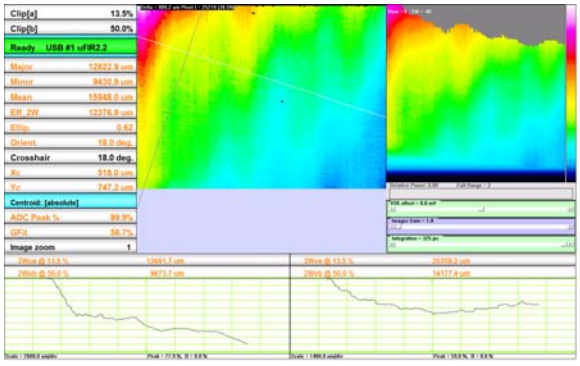


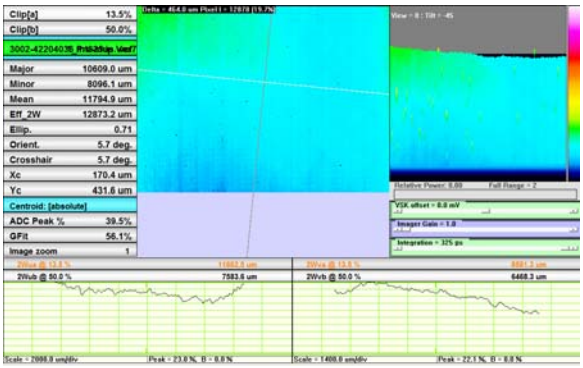
13) Enter the camera bias voltages **VSK** and **VFID** from the label on top of the camera. Press **Start Calibration**.

14) After a few seconds you will see the line **Complete, ….** appear in the dialog. Press **Save and exit.**

[The calibration file is saved in **c:\Program files\DataRay** directory as, this example, **3011-37422055.uFir_2_cal**. If you move the camera to another PC, either redo the calibration or also move the file.]

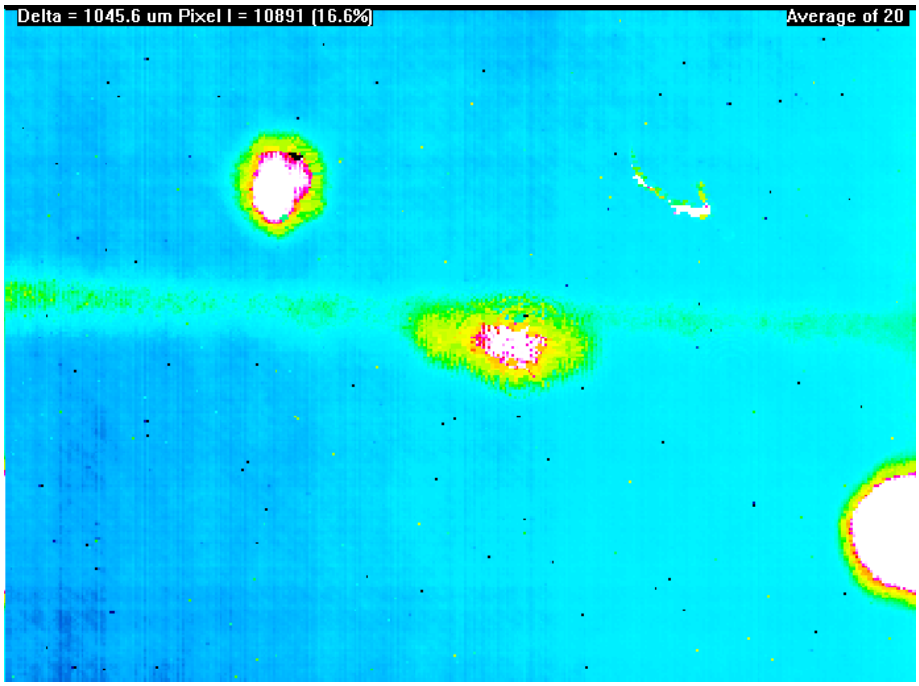
Reference Image & Damage





15) After calibration, we take a Reference file at **Imager Gain =1** and minimum **Integration** time, two examples above. **IMPORTANT**: <u>In the event of any claims regarding imager damage, this is the definitive reference image</u>. A copy is kept with DataRay, and a copy accompanies the shipment. *Note that there can be both dead and bright pixels, inevitable with microbolometers. See the Defective Pixels Specification in Appendix B*.

How to identify Damage. Below is an example of a sensor with white burn areas, plus a faint green left to right trail due to overexposure. <u>*Such user damage is not covered by warranty and is not repairable*</u>. If your beam is small, you can continue to use the good areas of the sensor, but Auto-VSK offset may have difficulty. The good news is that the sensors are replaceable at the factory. You do not need to purchase a new camera.

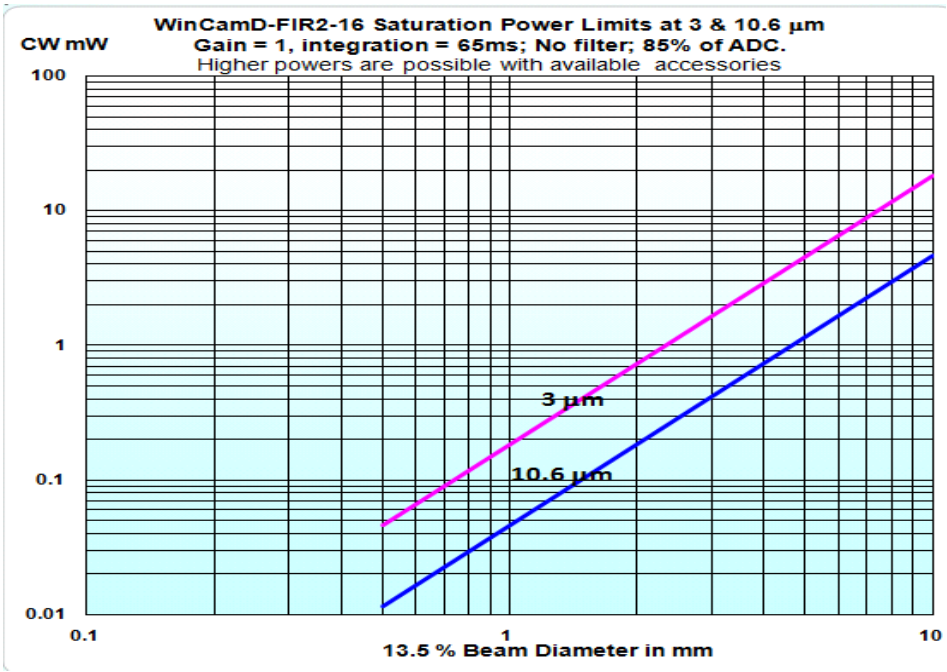


Very Expensive Sensor **Observe max irradiance limits.**

Irradiance limits & Damage Thresholds

***Very* Expensive Sensor**
Observe max irradiance limits (or pay for sensor replacement)

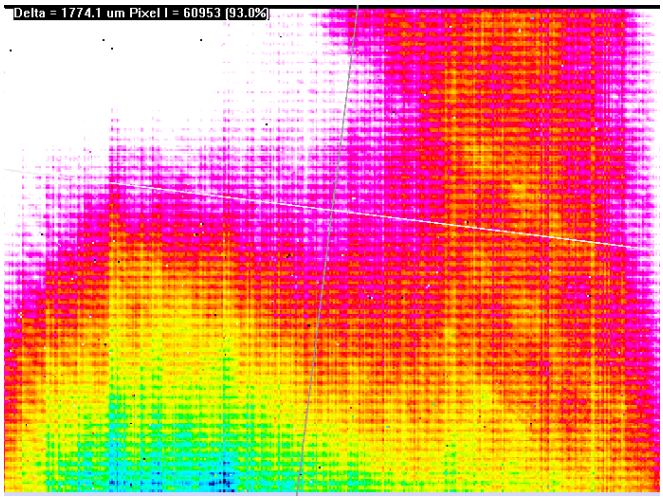
16) We cannot stress strongly enough that the maximum irradiance limits must be observed. To facilitate this we provide two graphs of ***APPROXIMATE*** maximum signal versus beam diameter at 3 & 10 µm. However, in our experience, many IR lasers beams have '**peaky**' profiles, rather than smooth Gaussian or top hat pixels. Even on commercial lasers we have seen major profile variations of peak intensity and position with time - see burnt sensor image on previous page!



Damage threshold limits are ***approximately*** 20 times higher than the Saturation power limits.

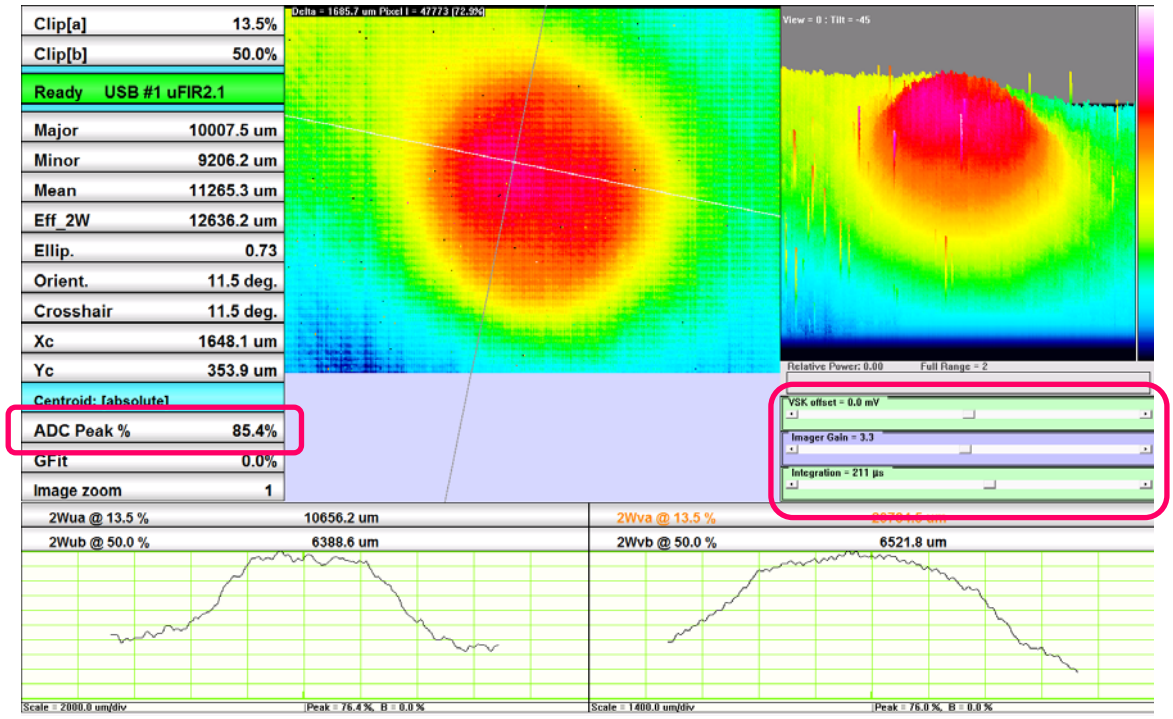
Operation

17) Go **File**, **Load defaults**. Press **G**o. You will see a screen similar to that shown below.



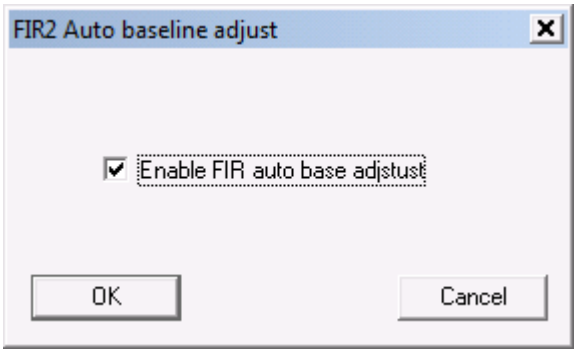
18) Measure your estimated beam irradiance. It must be ***<25 mW/cm²***. Unscrew the plastic dustcap.

19) ***First time, carefully and interatively 'walk' the beam in from the side while adjusting the sensitivity***. As the beam saturates, stop walking the beam onto the sensor. As **ADC Peak %** approaches or exceeds **100%**, the screen values will turn **Orange** as a warning. As the beam saturates first use the middle slider to reduce the **Imager Gain**.



20) **Histogram**: Right-click on the 2D screen to select **Show ADC Histogram (live only)**. This shows the distribution of ADC input levels in the current screen. These levels are used by the **Auto VSK offset** control to adjust the VSK to give a good image.

21) **Auto VSK offset**: Right click on the **VSK offset** bar to **Enable FIR auto base adjust**. This uses the histogram distribution range to automate the baseline setting in order to optimize the compromise between sensitivity and dynamic range.



22) **Signal level too high?** If the **Imager Gain** is at 1 use the lower slider to reduce the **Integration**. *If the **Imager Gain** & **Integration** are fully to the left and you are still saturated, immediately block the beam and remeasure and reduce the irradiance.* See Appendix A for samplers and attenuators.

23) **Signal level too low?** **Imager Gain** causes signal to noise ratio to deteriorate faster than increased **Integration** does, so increase **Integration** first, and only if maximum **Integration** is inadequate should you then increase the **Imager Gain**. As you adjust **Integration**, wait patiently for the **Auto VSK adjust** to catch up. Sensor characteristics cause the DC level to decrease before it increases again, even though responsivity *is* increasing linearly with **Integration**.

24) **Readout in mm?** Want to read beam diameter in mm rather than µm. Go to **Setup** and choose **Numeric Display Modes ...** . Select **XXX.Y mm**.

25) **Smooth the Beam or See Detail**? In the **Filter** pull-down menu select an **Area filter**. Area display filters improve visible SNR at the expense of resolution. E.g. the 3x3 pixels filter will improve SNR by

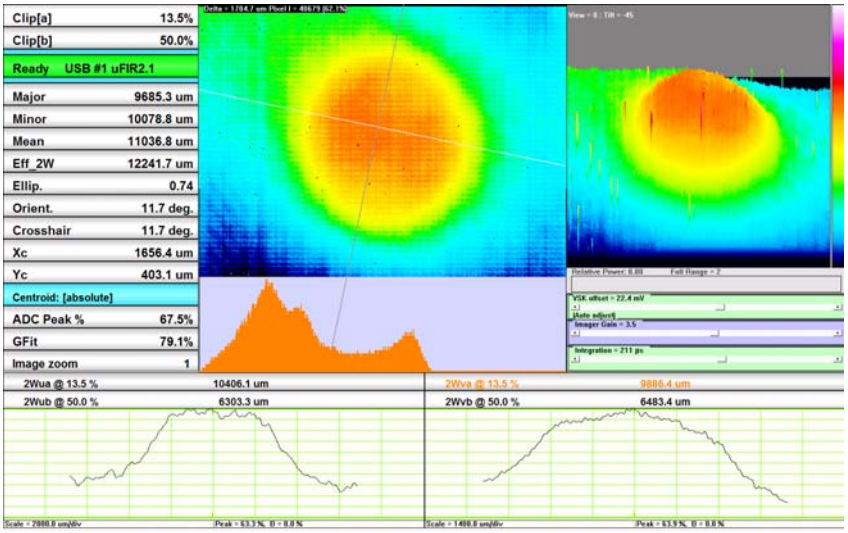
a factor of ~3, but increases the effective pixel size from 35 x 35 µm to 105 x 105 µm. This is still ~50 resolution elements across a 5 mm beam.

Want mainly to smooth the beam? Use **Area filter #** ≥ (Beam diameter in mm) x 2

Want to see detail in the beam? Use **Area filter #** ≤ (Beam diameter in mm) / 2

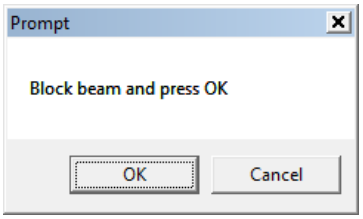
Want to compromise? Use **Area filter #** ≈ (Beam diameter in mm)

26) When you have set **Imager Gain**, **Integration**, irradiance and the options above appropriately you will arrive at something like this:

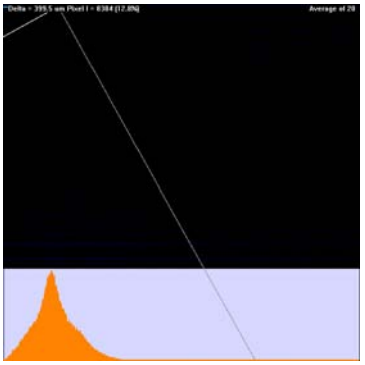


27) In the **Average** pull-down menu set **Average 20**. Press the Background subtraction button in the toolbar. You know which this is because you read the full manual, right?

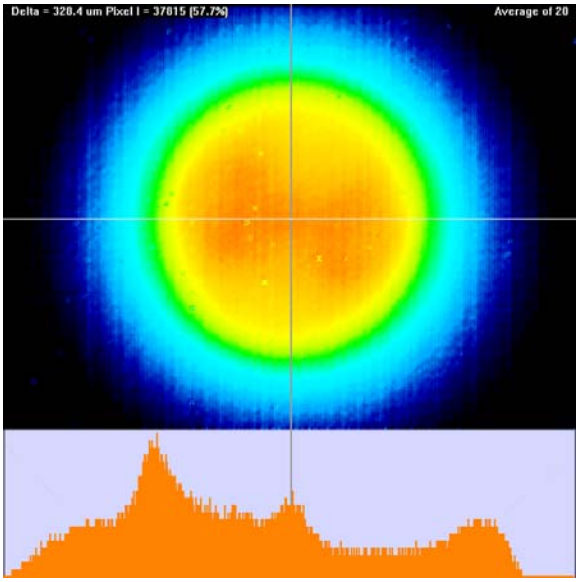
But in case you forgot it's [-] The message shown right appears:



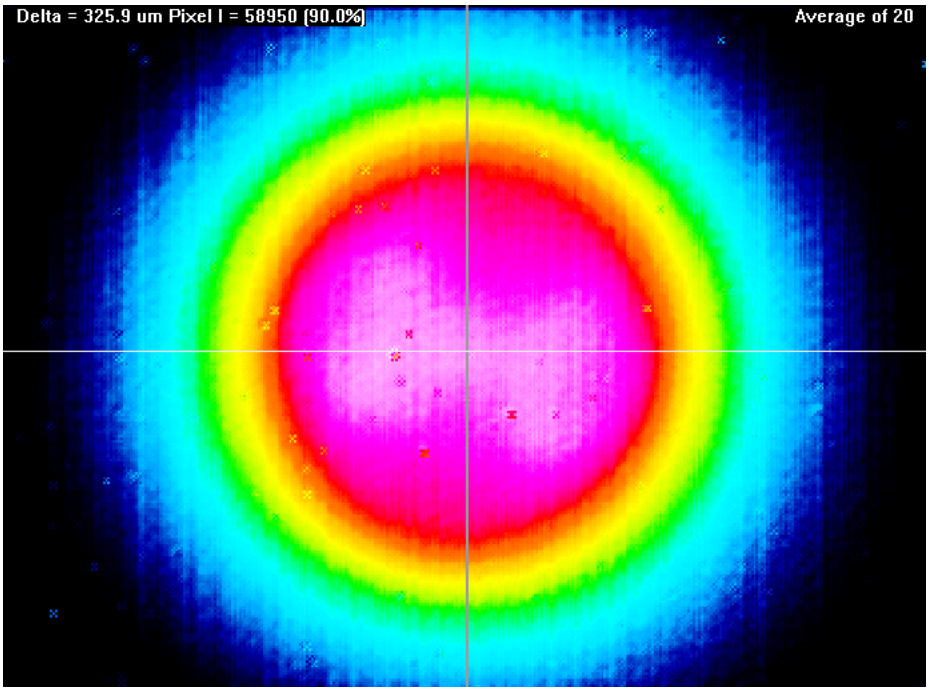
Block the beam and then press **OK**. Press **G**o, you will get this, to the right:



28) Allow the beam back, press **G**o & if everything has gone right, you should have a good image of your beam that may look something like this you should see something like this:



29) Optionally, press the normalize button on the toolbar, , to get this:



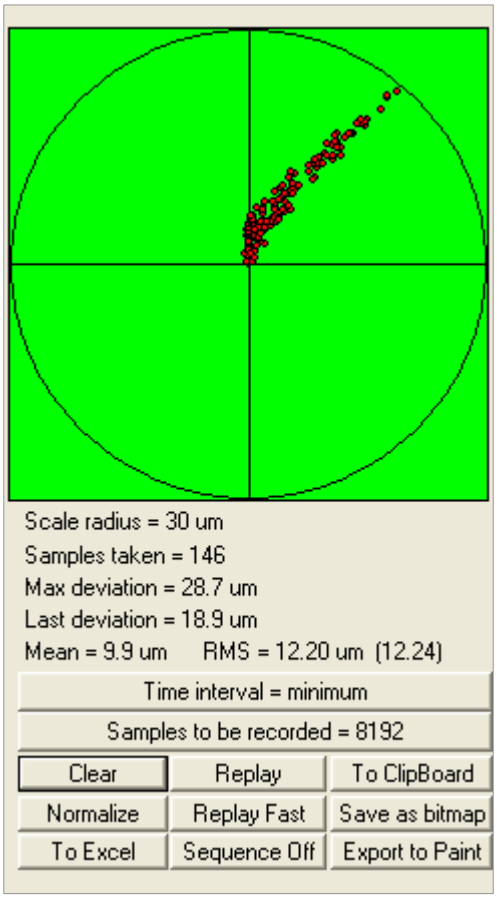
30) Press **S**top, , immediately and block the beam to reduce the possibility of burn-in.

31) Go **File**, **Save**, **Save current data as wcf**. Until the software is updated to save all voltage settings, please also press the button and paste into Paint or Word and save the file.

32) **Load Defaults**: Go **S**top, **File**, **Load defaults** to set many things back to their defaults. Currently this sets **Imager Gain** to **5.7**, **Integration** to **211 µs**, **Auto VSK offset** to off, and **Show histogram** to off.

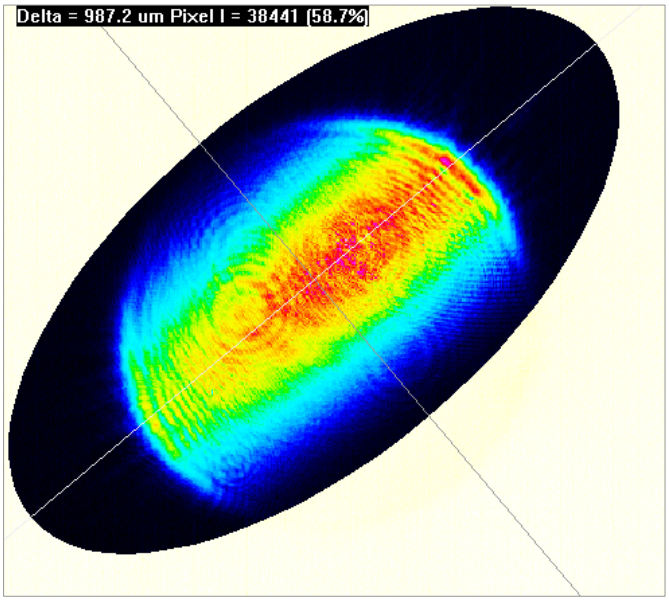
33) See or suspect a problem? Send both files to support@dataray.com. Follow up with a call to 303-543-8235.

Powerful Beam Analysis Software

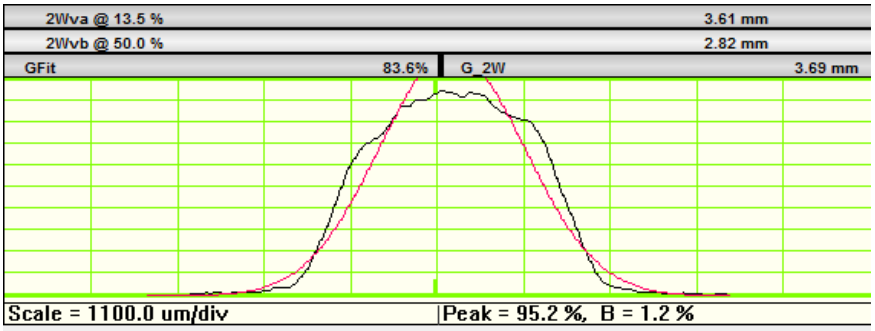


Beam Wander on a drifting Laser
Up to 8192 samples at a User Set interval.
Mean, RMS and Max. deviation.
Replay Fast or Slow.
Export to Excel, Paint, Bitmap or Clipboard.

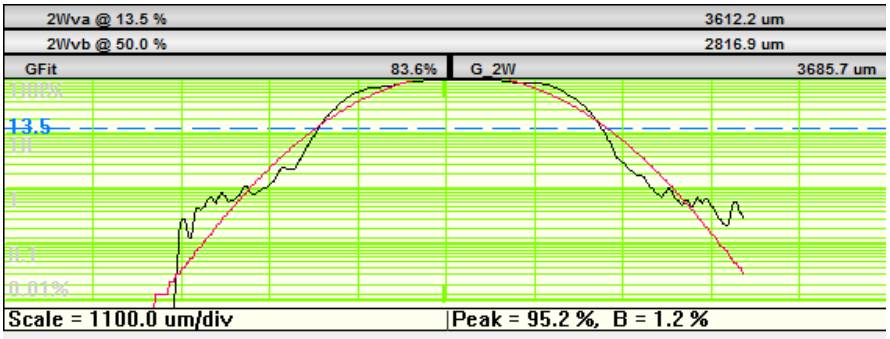
Auto-Inclusion Region on an Elliptical Beam
Automatically isolates the appropriate analysis region.
With user overrides.



Standard Linear Profile
with Gaussian Fit.



Logarithmic Profile
The same profile with Averaging & Log 40 dB display reveals structure in the wings of the beam at levels below 1%.



DataRay Innovation - The company that brought you the *first* Windows-based CCD beam profiler, the *first* thin camera for confined spaces, the *first* software slider exposure and electronic auto-shutter, the *first* standard window-free CCD for no fringing, the *first* auto-orientation on the ellipse & the *first* USB 2.0 beam profiling camera has done it again …

Compact, Room Temperature, Port Powered WinCamD-FIR cameras.

Features:

- ◊ Digital serial link for EMI immunity
- ◊ XY profiles and centroids
- ◊ Linear and logarithmic displays
- ◊ Gaussian and Top Hat least squares fits
- ◊ Ellipse Angle, Major, Minor, Mean Diameters
- ◊ Background capture and subtraction
- ◊ Image & Intensity Zoom
- ◊ Linear and area filters
- ◊ Image Averaging, 1 to continuous
- ◊ PC Or Mac-Intel Operation

WinCamD-FIR Specifications: [Preliminary specifications- subject to change without notice]

Wavelength Ranges	~2-16 µm .
Pulsed lasers	Averages pulses over the exposure period. Same mean irradiance limits apply.
Interface	USB 2.0 for laptops & desktops. 3 m standard thin cable, 5 m option.
ISO 11146	Beam profile Second moment processing
Certification	RoHS, WEEE, CE
Measurable Sources	CW beams, Pulsed sources
Measured Beam Powers	*See Note below.*
Manual Beam Attenuation:	Contact Support for options
Measurement Accuracy	5 µm processing resolution for interpolated diameters. Absolute accuracy is beam profile dependent – ~10 µm accuracy is frequently achievable. Centroid accuracy is also beam dependent. It can be as good as ±10 µm since it is arithmetically derived from all pixels above the centroid clip level.
Measured & Displayed Profile Parameters	Beam Diameter: Diameter at two user set Clip levels Gaussian & Second Moment beam diameters Equivalent diameter above a user defined Clip level Equivalent Slit and Knife Edge diameters Beam Fit: Gaussian & Top Hat profile fit & % fit Equivalent Slit profile Ellipticity: Major, Minor & Mean diameters. Auto-orientation of axes. Centroid Position: Relative and absolute Intensity Weighted Centroid and Geometric Center Beam Wander Display and Statistics Smoothing Filter: Triangular running average up to 10% FWHM
Displayed Profiles	2-D & 3-D plots 10, 16, 256 or max. colors or gray. Contoured display at 10 and 16 color.
Displayed Plots	X-Y Profiles, 2D, 3D Plots. Zoom to x10
Processing Options	Image & profile averaging, 1, 5, 10, 20, Continuous Background Capture and Subtraction ***.job** files save all WinCamD custom settings for particular test configurations
Pass/**Fail** display	On-screen, in selectable **Pass**/**Fail** colors. Ideal for QA & Production.
Averaging	Beam dimension running average up to 50 samples
Log data	Up to 4096 samples. Centroid Min., Max., Mean, Standard Deviation.
Relative Power Measurement	Rolling histogram based on user's initial input. Units of **mW**, **µJ**, **dBm**, **%** or user choice (relative to a reference measurement input)
Fluence	Fluence, within user defined area
Weight, Camera Head	320 gm (11 oz)
Minimum PC Requirements:	1 GHz Pentium IV or higher running Windows 7/Vista/XP (32 or 64 bit); 1024 MB RAM; 10 MB Hard Drive space; 1024 x 768 monitor, USB 2.0 hi-power (500 mA) port.

ORDERING INFORMATION

◊ **Limited 1 Year Warranty (excludes sensor damage)** ◊ **Free Software Upgrades** ◊ **30 Day Sale or Return Evaluation PO**

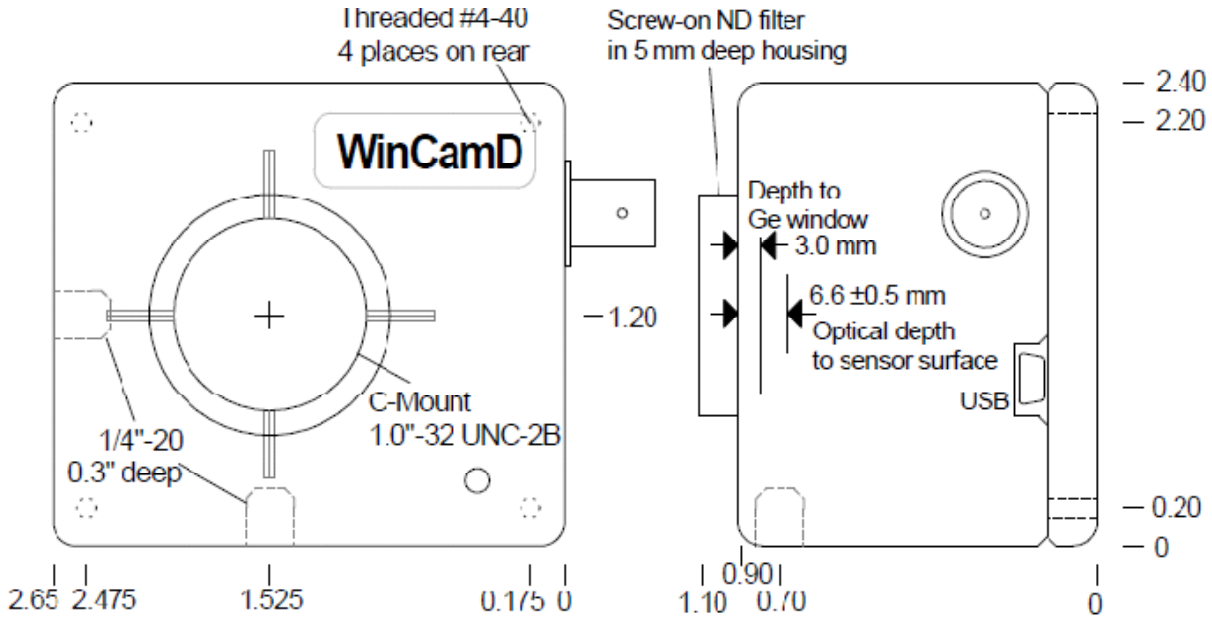
A Complete System comprises: Camera, Software, 3 m (10 ft) Cable, User Manual.

Part Number component descriptions

WinCamD-FIR2-16	Complete working USB 2.0 camera system includes manual, cables, and software. 2-16 µm

Other DataRay Profiling USB 2.0 Instruments, 190 nm to 3.5 µm options.

BeamMap2	Real Time M-Squared Multi-plane profiler 0.1 micron resolution on CW lasers Centroid, Alignment, Divergence, $M^{2,}$ Visible and Telecom wavelengths. *Optional* Dual Detectors 190-1800 nm
Beam'R2	0.1micron resolution on CW lasers, 0.5 micron to 4 mm beam dimensions *Optional* Dual Detectors 190-1800 nm
BeamScope-P8	100 microns to 23 mm, M^2 accessory, ISO 11146 Standard Linear scanning slit ,CW or Pulsed (PRR >5 kHz) lasers, up to 23 x 45 mm scanned area
WinCamD-UCD12	14 Bit ADC with high resolution ½" CCD array 4.65 x 4.65 µm pixels
WinCamD-UCD15	14 Bit ADC with high resolution CCD array 4.4 x 4.4 µm pixels
WinCamD-UCD23	14 Bit ADC with high resolution 2/3" CCD array 6.45 x 6.45 µm pixels
DualCamD	Measure real-time divergence and ratios with cameras at 90°
BladeCam	0.65" thin CMOS camera with ½" CMOS sensor, 5.2 x 5.2 µm pixels



WinCamD-FIR2-16 Outline & Mounting – Shown actual size

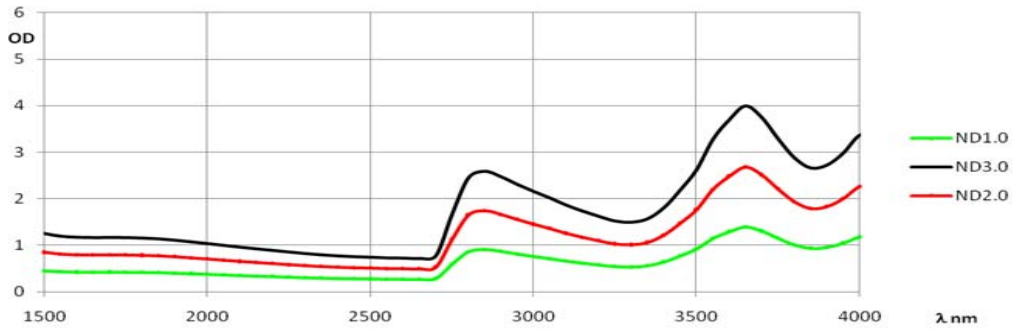
Appendix A – a non-exhaustive list of related products.

a) Power Meters for µW to W

   a. Gentec-eo **XLP12-1S-H2-DO** with **P-Link** USB interface, µW to 3 W.

b) Samplers and attenuators

a. **C-mount Absorbing Glass ND filters** mounted at 3°, originally specified for 350 to 1150 nm silicon CCD systems. The graph below shows the calculated IR transmission for these filters. Stocked by DataRay as: **ND1.0**, **ND2.0** and **ND3.0**. An **ND2.0** is provided with every system.
Damage threshold: 1 W/cm^2.

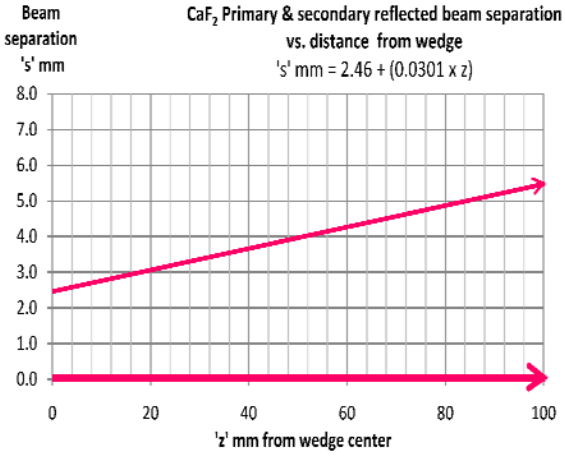


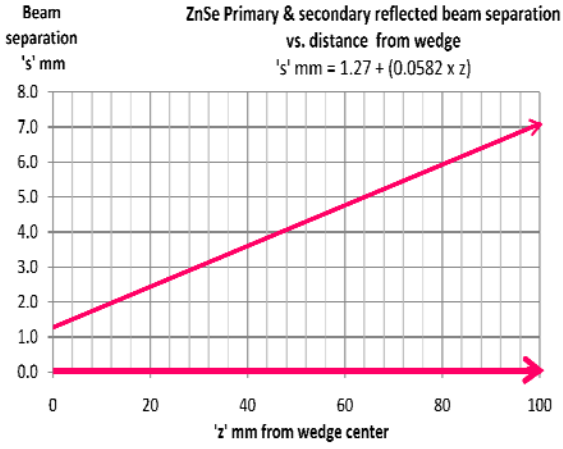
b. **C-mount IR metallic ND filters on a Ge substrate**, flat over 2-14 µm, ND 0.3, 0.5, 1.0, 2.0, 3.0. Stocked by DataRay as: **FIR-ND0.3**, **FIR-ND0.5**, **FIR-ND1.0**, **FIR-ND2.0** & **FIR-ND3.0**.
Damage threshold: TBA W/cm^2.

c. **ZnSe FIR Wire Grid Polarizer**. Extinction Ratio: 100 at 3 µm, 300 at 10.6 µm. Available in a C-mount rotating mount as: **FIR-WGP-RM**
Damage threshold: 50 W/cm^2; 2J/cm^2 @ 100ns

d. **Wedge beamsplitters**. ZnSe 3° and CaF_2 unmounted 25 mm diameter wedge beamsplitters. Stocked by DataRay as: **FIR-W-CAF2-3**, **FIR-W-ZnSe-3** for unmounted wedges, or **FIR-MW-CAF2-3**, **FIR-MW-ZnSe-3** for a mounted wedge.
Damage threshold: 50 W/cm^2; 5 J/cm^2 at 10.6 µm, 100 ns, 1 Hz

	Reflectivity at 45°				Two orthogonal wedges	
	s %	**p %**	**Ratio**	**Av. %**	**%**	**Ratio**
CaF_2	6.85	0.47	14.6:1	3.66	0.032	3115:1
ZnSe	27.9	9.8	3.58:1	17.1	2.18	46:1





e. C-mount OD 0.30 & 0.76 25.4 mm diameter CaF_2 10.6 µm attenuators.
Stocked by DataRay as: **FIR-CaF2-0D0.3**, **FIR-CaF2-0D0.76**
Damage threshold: 50 W/cm^2; 5 J/cm^2 at 10.6 µm, 100 ns, 1 Hz

Appendix B – Defective Pixels Specification

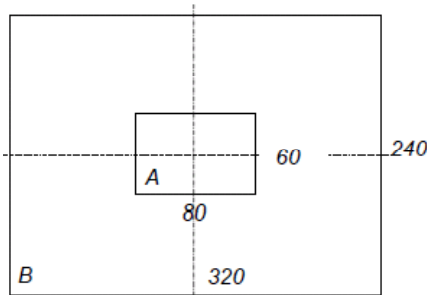
A pixel is considered non-operating if:

- It's responsivity is <0.8 x or >1.2 x average responsivity
- It's NETD is 1.5 x the average NETD in the STR

A single non-operating pixel is a non-operating pixel with no adjacent non-operating pixel.

Area: THE FPA is divided into three areas which have the same optical axis:

- Area A: the central zone of 80 x 60 pixels
- Area B: the central zone of 320 x 240 (i.e. excluding Area A) of the array.
- Area C: the rectangular annulus between the full 392 x 296 image are and Area B.



Cluster: A cluster is defined as a group of at least two non-operating pixels adjacent by side or corner. Clusters are defined by their size in terms of non-operating pixels.

Non-operating row: A row is considered non-operating if more than 50% of the pixels in this row are no-operating.

Non-operating column: A column is considered non-operating if more than 50% of the pixels in this column are no-operating.

Operability specification: The following specification is valid only within areas A & B:

Clusters	Areas A & B	Maximum cluster size: 9 non-operating pixels.
Rows & Columns	Area A	0 non-operating row or column
	Area B	≤1 non-operating rows & ≤1 non-operating columns
Operability	Areas A & B	≥99 %